

December 24, 1981

CONTENTS

	PAGE
• Arms Race Book Designed for Lenten Discussions (81333)	1
• Church Pension Fund Increases Benefits (81334)	2
• Gift Fund Homiletics Chair at General (81335)	3
• Picture Caption (81336)	4

#

ARMS RACE BOOK DESIGNED FOR LENTEN DISCUSSIONS

DPS 81333

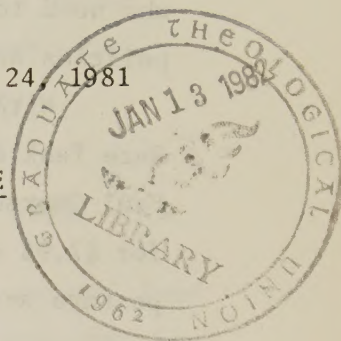
CINCINNATI - The Episcopal Urban Caucus has published, through Forward Movement Publications, a new paperback entitled, *The Nuclear Arms Race: COUNTDOWN TO DISASTER -- A Study in Christian Ethics*.

The author, the Rev. William W. Rankin, has arranged the contents to form seven areas for group participation: The Nuclear Age; Nuclear Weapons; Who Are the Soviets?; U.S. Security Strategies; Militarism, The Cities and The Poor; Christian Perspectives Upon War; and, as a final gathering, strategies for action and a prepared liturgy using Rite Two from *The Book of Common Prayer*.

The book is one of two major studies on the peace issue that has emerged this year, the other being *Rumors of War* which Seabury Press is publishing as part of the "Jubilee Series" of Executive Council-authorized issue studies.

The Rev. Charles A. Cesaretti, public issues officer at the Episcopal Church Center, and co-editor of *Rumors*, said of the Caucus book: "There are a number of approaches to studying this vital issue. *Rumors* represents one

-more-



Bill Bennett
Read P 3-
Gift to GTS

W88
NM B
Benn
Darn
NH Nancy

approach and *Countdown* another and one that is welcome as we try to reach different parts of this pluralistic community we call the Episcopal Church."

In endorsing the book, Rear Admiral Gene R. LaRocque wrote, "This excellent book details many of the reasons why nuclear war is a steadily increasing possibility. It provides hard facts for concerned individuals who need to buttress their moral arguments with an understanding of military policies and programs which accelerate the nuclear arms race."

With an introduction by the Rev. George F. Regas, convenor of the Arms Race Task Force of the Caucus, the 128-page book contains illustrations by Paul Conrad of the *Los Angeles Times*. It is available from Forward Movement for \$2.95 a copy, or \$2.15 each for quantity orders of ten or more, plus postage and handling.

#

CHURCH PENSION FUND
INCREASES BENEFITS

DPS 81334

NEW YORK -- The Rt. Rev. James W. Montgomery, chairman of the board of The Church Pension Fund of the Episcopal Church, and Robert A. Robinson, president and chief executive officer, have jointly announced significant benefit increases for current and prospective beneficiaries. The benefits, voted by the Fund's trustees, became effective Jan. 1, 1982.

The benefits currently payable to pensioned ministers pensioned spouses, and the prospective surviving spouses of currently pensioned ministers will be increased by 10 percent of the first \$3,600 of annual pension plus 5 percent of the next \$3,600. The maximum increase will be \$540 annually, and the minimum \$60 annually.

The basic annual pensions of clergy who on or after Jan. 1, 1982 retire from or die in the active ministry will be computed as: Credited Service times Highest Average Compensation times 1.35 percent, while prior to Jan. 1, 1982 the percent factor was 1.3 percent. Spouse benefits of such clergy will equal one-half of the clergy benefit.

Regular minimum annual pensions for clergy will be increased from \$120 times Years of Credited Service up to 40 years to \$130 times Years of Credited Service up to 40 years. Additionally, the flat death benefit payable upon the death of eligible active or retired clergy will be increased by \$1,000, making a total of \$5,000 for pre-retirement death and \$3,000 for post-retirement death.

Robinson also announced that the Rev. Harry B. Whitley has joined the staff of The Church Pension Fund as clergy coordinator, replacing the Rev. George T. Cobbett. Acting as liaison between the Fund and the clergy, Whitley's responsibilities will include answering inquiries regarding retirement and disability benefits, pension calculations, death benefits and Fund Rules.

He was active for many years in the parish ministry in Puerto Rico, Michigan, Illinois, Connecticut, and, most recently, in New Jersey.

#

GIFT FUNDS HOMILETICS
CHAIR AT GENERAL

DPS 81335

A major gift to the Campaign for General, the \$12 million capital fund effort now underway at the Episcopal Church General Theological Seminary, has been received to endow the Trinity Church Chair of Homiletics. The Very Rev. James C. Fenhagen, Dean of General, calls it one of the "most significant appointments to the faculty in recent years and addresses the need felt throughout the Church for clergy who are able to preach the gospel with clarity, conviction and passion."

The search for a person to fill the chair is underway under the direction of the Rev. Dr. Alan W. Jones, Professor of Ascetical Theology. Jones intends that his committee will complete its work so the appointment can be accomplished at the May 1982 meeting of the Board of Trustees so that the new professor is on hand for the start of the Seminary's 164th academic year in September. The search will be conducted, according to Jones, "outside the Episcopal Church as well as within for a person with an earned doctorate and competency in the art of communications as well as preaching." The person, continues Jones, "must also be able to teach theory and practice of preaching in a liturgical as well as a wide range of settings."

The endowment for the Trinity Church Chair of Homiletics is part of the gift of over \$3 million received from the Protestant Episcopal Society for Promoting Religion and Learning in the State of New York for various areas of instruction at the Seminary. The campaign is nearing the \$8 million mark in gifts and pledges, about two-thirds of the way toward realization of the goal. The funds to be raised will provide for the endowment of the Seminary's library;

-more-

endowment for instruction; for the renovation of the married student apartment building; and for deferred maintenance on a portion of the Seminary's 22 buildings on the city block on the West Side of Manhattan known as Chelsea Square.

#


PICTURE CAPTION

DPS 81336

Presiding Bishop's Fund Poster

"Abundant life" is the theme of this new red-black-and-white poster from the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief. A matching bulletin cover, with a brief meditation on St. John 10:10, has also been produced. Both are available for parish use in quantity and without charge from the Presiding Bishop's Fund, Episcopal Church Center, New York, N.Y. 10017. (Credit must read: Poster photo Ed Eckstein.)

#



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2024

